A huge thank you to everyone who supported and celebrated Education Week with us last week. The three concerts were a great success. It was fantastic to see all of the community celebrating together. Special thanks to Mrs Denz for all of her hard work and effort with the concert. DVD’s of the concert will be available for purchase soon.

**Student progress:** This week your child will bring home a student progress report. This will give you information about how your child is going in literacy and numeracy. The PLAN report also includes some ideas that you could use at home to help assist your child. If you have any questions about the reports please see your child’s class teacher.

**Musica Viva:** Students and staff were entertained today by Sounds Baroque. We all enjoyed the different instruments and songs. Students will be continuing to learn about this musical group during the term.

**Book week:** The book week parade will be on Thursday 7th August at 10:30am in the hall. Students are encouraged to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. There will be a cake stall after the parade at 11:10am. The book fair will be held in the library on Thursday and Friday, with many great books available for purchase.

**High tea @ the G:** The P&C will be having a complimentary high tea tomorrow (Wednesday 6th August) from 2-4pm in G block, near the computer lab. Come in, have something to eat and drink and meet some new friendly faces.

**Dance Festival:** Congratulations to the Junior Dance Group who performed at the Hunter Schools Dance Festival. I was very impressed with all of the students and they represented the school proudly. The dance group will perform at book week. Could all dancers please bring their costumes to school on Thursday.
Playground equipment: Thank you to Mr Nick Bradley who has made our infants equipment look brand new. The new colours look fantastic. The infant’s playground will reopen next week. Thank you to the P&C for paying for this important upgrade.

Canberra: Stage 3 are off to Canberra in two weeks (19th – 22nd August). Please ensure you have finalised all payments and returned the medical and behaviour notes to the office. We will be departing school at 7:30am.

Wetlands: Stage 1 students are going to the Wetlands on the 19th August. All notes and money need to be returned to the office this week. Cost for the excursion is $19.00.

Oakvale Farm: Kindergarten are excited about their excursion to Oakvale Farm on the 3rd of September. The cost for the excursion is $22.00.

Belmont High: Best wishes to all of the students who sat the enrichment class test today. I am sure you all tried your best.

Hair products: We have a variety of school coloured hair ties and bands for sale in the canteen. All items are $4.00 each.

Author Visit: The students are looking forward to meeting Aaron Blabey this Friday 8th August. All students have been learning about his publications and the process of writing and illustrating books. Please send payment of $4.00/child with the signed permission note to the office before Friday’s visit if possible to avoid your child missing out on this session.

Family Chats: All Aboriginal families should have received an invitation to meet with your child’s mentor next week. Please return the slip back to school indicating the most suitable place and time for you and your family to meet with the mentor/teacher. If you are unable to meet, your child’s mentor is more than happy to arrange a telephone interview.

Public Speaking: Good luck to all of the students competing next week in the Lake Macquarie Public Speaking finals. ES1 students: Rani and Coby will present their speeches on Thursday at Marks Point. Stage 1 students: Jasmine and Annika will present their speeches on Friday at Belmont Public. Stage 2 students: Tia and Amber will head off to Eleebana on Tuesday and Stage 3 students: Bethany and Mia will start the week representing our school at Floraville on Monday.

SCR leadership day: Our SRC leaders will be attending a leadership day next Tuesday at St Luke’s Hall from 9:00 – 2:30. I hope our four leaders have an enjoyable day and learn as much as they can about running meetings, fundraisers and interacting with the school community. Belmont High School is running this workshop.
Zone Athletics: The Eastlakes Zone Athletics Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 13th August/Thursday 14th August 2014 at Baxter Field, Marks Point.** The carnival will commence at 9.00am and children need to **leave school at 8.30am. Private transport will be required.** There will be a canteen in operation on the day and children will return to school before 3.10pm. There is a **$2.00 entry fee for all** competitors competing at the zone carnival. If you are competing on both days, you are required to pay $4.00. Children must wear shoes at all times. Spikes are permitted in age races and 200m only. Mr Lobston and Miss Montgomery will be in attendance at the carnival. Sports uniform is required. We will provide school singlets to be worn on the day.

**Important Dates:**
- **6th August** – P&C High Tea 2 – 4pm
- **6th August** – Year 5 debating vs Floraville
- **7th August** – Book Parade, Book Fair and cake stall
- **8th August** – Aaron Blabey Author visit
- **8th August** – Book Fair in the library

**Week 5:**
- PLP mentor meetings
- Public Speaking Finals at various schools
- **12th August:** SRC leadership day 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
- **13th – 14th August:** Zone Athletics competition

**Kate Foley**
Acting Principal

Premier’s Spelling Bee Well done to our Stage 2 and Stage 3 students who represented their class in our School Spelling Bee. The words were quite difficult and it was great to watch students conquering these words round after round! Congratulations to our winners who will be representing our school in the Regional finals in week 9 at Hamilton Public School.

**Stage 2 winners:** Ellie Stock and Hannah Hughes

**Stage 3 winners:** Jarvis Farthing and Tahlia McKinley

All students should be proud of their **a-c-h-i-e-v-e-m-e-n-t-s!**

**Miss Peace**
Spelling Bee Coordinator

The Great Aussie Bush Camp
Stage 2 has planned an excursion to ‘The Great Aussie Bush Camp’ (Karuah), in week three, Term 4. We are still after expressions of interest and deposits to be paid so the camp can be confirmed and student numbers finalised. The camp requires final numbers by the end of week 5, 15th August. The total cost of the excursion is $260.00. This includes coach travel, accommodation, meals and activities. A $50.00 deposit is required asap, and regular payments will be required with final payment by Friday 10th October 2014.

**If you have any questions please see Mr McIlvenie in 3/4M.**

NAIDOC Week 2014 celebrations:
In week 2 we celebrated Naidoc Week. It is an opportunity for students to learn and recognise the Aboriginal culture in today’s society. Students participated in a variety of activities including Aboriginal games, painting and learning about Dreamtime stories.

The celebrations concluded with an assembly, where we enjoyed learning about Aboriginal music and dance. Year 6 students are helping to paint a mural to be placed in the Hall. It is based on the Dreatime story about Belmont Lagoon, “When The Moon Cried”.

Students were asked to create their own story using Aboriginal symbols. Shilee (KK), Jake (1M), Paulini (1/2L), Cailene (3/4S), Joel (5/6F) and Thomas (5/6F) have created wonderful examples of these. Well done!

**Miss B Edwards NAIDOC Co-Ordinator**
YOU CAN DO IT!

Confidence

Beginning in week 5 our school will be focusing on the You Can Do It! Foundation of confidence. The character Connie Confidence will be introduced next week to help your child learn that confidence means:

- Not being afraid to make mistakes when learning something new.
- Believing that he/she will be successful when learning something new.
- Not being afraid to meet new people. Believing that he/she will be liked and make friends.
- Standing up tall, sitting with a straight back, speaking in a voice that everyone can hear but is not too loud.

Some ideas that we would like for you to discuss next week with your child that help develop confidence are

I am likeable and good at doing many things
1. It is okay to make mistakes when learning something new, and
2. It is good for me to try new activities by myself and it is okay to ask for help if I need it.

When you catch your child being confident, give lots of praise (‘Good for you! You were not afraid to try something new,” “You see we all make mistakes when learning something new,” and “You are becoming confident.”)

Canteen News:
Fruit & Veg month commences next Monday 11th August until the end of Term 3. Every time students purchase an item containing fresh fruit or vegetables from the canteen they will receive one token. Once the token sheet is complete it can be handed into the canteen for a small prize. At the end of the term all entries completed or not need to be handed to the canteen to be sent to the Sydney Markets for a chance to win the major prize.

Bookweek Parade cake Stall:
The school will be holding a cake stall in conjunction with Thursday’s Bookweek Parade. All donations would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off to the canteen. Unfortunately we cannot accept products containing nuts due to the risk of anaphylaxis.

Canteen Roster:
Wed 6th Aug: Helper needed
Thu 7th Aug: Janet, Janice
Fri 8th Aug: Renae, Janine
Mon 11th Aug: Ian
Tue 12th Aug: Rebecca, Tim
Wed 13th Aug: Allison
Thu 14th Aug: Renae, Janine
Fri 15th Aug: Helper needed
Mon 18th Aug: Tammy, Rachel
Tue 19th Aug: Maree, Tara